

**Amendments to the Specification**

Please replace the last paragraph of page 1 of the application as filed, and published as ¶, with the replacement paragraph as follows:

However, the operator does not always desire a strong compacting of this sort at a locally limited point on the soil. In particular when the vibration plate is moving back and forth, at what is called the reverse point an overly strong and thus disadvantageous compacting of the soil can arise, because the force acting on the soil at this position is at its greatest, whereas during the forward or backward travel of the vibration plate, and the concomitant pivoting of the resultant force vector by, for example, 45° towards the front or towards the back, the force acting on the soil is reduced to ~~1/2~~ 1 / 2 of the maximum value.